

#### **Examiner's Amendment**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling traffic on a network, comprising:  
receiving messages related to peer-to-peer application, intercepted by a filter unit from a network line, irrespective of the messages' destination,  
managing a request represented by an intercepted message subject to its content and subject to peering specific information, wherein the request to be managed is a connect request issued from a peer node and directed to another peer node,  
dropping the intercepted message-;  
wherein managing the connect request is subject to existing connections ~~the~~ a network traffic control unit is aware of the dropping of a plurality of intercepted messages, wherein no message is sent to the addressee of the intercepted connect request when a connection is already established that can serve or be extended to serve the requesting peer node, and further comprising:  
sending a connect request to the originator of the intercepted connect request in response to the intercepted connect request-;

sending a connect request to the addressee of the intercepted connect request;  
sending a connect request to the addressee of the intercepted connect request  
pretending the originator of the intercepted connect request is sending the  
connect request;  
sending a connect request to a peer node other than the addressee of the  
intercepted connect request;  
sending a connect request to another network traffic control unit; and  
sending the connect request to another party than the originator of the  
intercepted connect request once the originator has accepted the connect  
request from the network traffic control unit directed to the originator, and  
wherein a request to be managed is a data file query issued by a peer node,  
wherein managing the query request is subject to an index that allocates keys  
representing data files for download to network traffic control units,  
wherein managing the query request is subject to an index that allocates peer nodes to  
keys, and further comprising:  
deriving one or more keys from the content of the query\_ request;  
directing a request to one or more remote network traffic control units that are  
allocated to the derived keys according to ~~the~~ a key - network traffic control unit  
index;  
receiving a list of peer nodes that are allocated to the keys, from ~~the~~ a remote  
one of said network traffic control unit;  
sending a hit message to ~~the~~ a querying peer node;

administering a key - peer node index for some keys, and  
providing other network traffic control units on request with ~~the~~ knowledge of  
which peer nodes are allocated to a requested key according to the key - peer  
node index, wherein administering the key - peer node index comprises removals  
of entries;  
monitoring hit messages sent from an associated peer node,  
deriving one or more keys from content of a hit message,  
allocating ~~the~~ a sending said peer node to the derived keys, and  
storing the key - peer node relation in a key - peer node index.

#### **Reason for Allowance**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The applicant provides novel limitations of "sending a connect request to the originator of the intercepted connect request in response to the intercepted connect request, wherein managing the connect request is subject to existing connections the network traffic control unit is aware of the dropping of the intercepted messages, sending a connect request to the addressee of the intercepted connect request pretending the originator of the intercepted connect request is sending the connect request, and sending a connect request to another network traffic control unit; and sending the connect request to another party than the originator of the intercepted connect request once the originator has accepted the connect request from the network

traffic control unit directed to the originator" in the event that no message has been sent to the addressee of the intercepted connect request when a connection is already established that can serve the requesting peer node. The applicant has amended the claims in a way that the examiner could not find motivation for a combination of references to meet every limitation within the claim. Limitations provided by the applicant for a filtering unit used to intercept messages and allocating keys to peer nodes in a peer to peer network are unique in combination and presented in a unique allowable manner.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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20090415

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